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Application No. 09/909,980 Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

NOV 2 3 2004

Attorney Docket No. 03214/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): T. SUZUKI

Serial No. : 09/909,980

Filed

: July 23, 2001

For

: ENDOSCOPE AND ENDOSCOPIC

INSTRUMENT AND METHOD USING

THE SAME

Art Unit

: 3739

Examiner

: John P. Leubecker

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE-EXAMINING GROUP

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

This is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed September 22, 2004, the term for response to which expires on December 22, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims are set forth in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 11-19, 21, 22, 24 and 26-30 are canceled; claims 2, 7, 8, 10, 20, 23 and 25 are amended; and claim 31 is maintained.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

11/26/2004 JBALINAN 00000070 09909980

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION TO NO. 1-703-872-9306

TOTAL PAGES: 11

Amendment (10): 2038, \$264 (1)

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents on the date noted below.

am Daniel J. Bersohn

Dated: November 23, 2004

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith. please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by form PTO-2038 attached hereto. authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378.